

NEW SOVIET MA's IN SATELLITES

Since mid-1953, USSR has replaced its Military Attache in each of European Satellites. New appointees are:

- Albania (arrived Sept 53)
Lt. Gen. A.I. Rodimtsev, Hero of Sov. Union
- Hungary (Nov 53)
Lt. Gen. M.F. Tikhonov, HSU
- Bulgaria (Dec 53)
Lt. Gen. M.N. Zavodovski, HSU
- Rumania (Dec 53)
Lt. Gen. D.I. Smirnov, HSU
- Poland (April 54)
Lt. Gen. V.R. Vashkevich
- Czechoslovakia (July 54)
Col. Gen. A.P. Beloborodov, HSU

In general, these appointees have more distinguished combat records than their predecessors. All commanded corps or higher during World War II, and all but one hold the highest Soviet decoration. Five are of the Soviet two-star rank, while Czechoslovakia continues to be accorded an attache of one higher rank.

Soviet MA's in the Satellites are responsible for general supervision and training of individual satellite armed forces. Recent appointments of highly competent professional officers signifies new phase in Satellite military development, with emphasis on improving combat efficiency.

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